



COMPETITION RULES & FORMAT

1.0 GENERAL

- 1.1.1 The competition format is based on the system of a Gold, Silver, Bronze award format for all monthly club competitions.
- 1.1.2 All entries to be judged (and awarded) independently based solely on their own merits against a defined “standard”, (not ranked against each other) through use of the redesigned judging sheets.
- 1.2.1 Awards to be made for both novice and expert class, attained by reaching percentile standards determined on a points score, as follows:

	Novice	Expert
Gold	80	90
Silver	70	80
Bronze	60	70

- 1.2.2 The scores to be totaled on all judging sheets by an independent member of the committee (or an appointee) and not the judges, at the end of competition, to encourage impartiality.
- 1.2.3 The presentation of awards will be in the form of a trophy and a certificate for Gold Awards (when and where budgetary constraints allow), and certificates for Silver and Bronze grade entries. The Gold trophy will be presented on the day or if engraving of name, date and kit details is elected, at the meeting the month following at no charge.
- 1.2.4 No minimum or maximum number of awards may be presented in any one category or class on the day. All entries are to be judged solely on their merit and rewarded as such (the judges should feel under no pressure to be harsh or “go easy” depending on the level of entries present). Scoring should be steady and consistent to the score sheets, from model to model, category to category, and month to month, for both the confidence of the entrants and fairness in the end of year awards.
- 1.3.1 Any model which earns a gold Award is ineligible to re-enter any future monthly competition (apart from the End of Year competitions).
- 1.3.2 All other models which earn a Silver Award or less in their first competition are eligible to enter just one more monthly competition with only the average of their two scores counting towards the End of Year “aggregate” points score and “average” awards.

NB The only exception to 1.3.1 and 1.3.2 being the incorporation of the previously entered model into a diorama, in which case it may be re-entered in this form.

However, a model on a landscaped base that is entered as a “model” (either Out of the Box or Modified) cannot be re-entered without modification as a Vignette/Diorama in any future competition unless significant and/or noticeable changes and/or additions are made to the base.

2.0 COMPETITION RULES AND DEFINITIONS

2.1.1 All currently existing competition categories and scheduled monthly competitions are to remain unchanged.

2.2.1 All new members are allocated to Novice class and may only progress to Expert Class via promotion on merit.

2.2.2 Promotion from Novice to Expert class in a particular category may be attained by acquisition of 3 Gold Awards in a specific category over a calendar year, or at any time by “special recommendation” from the judges to the Committee and Club President.

2.2.3 Promotion to Expert Class applies only to the category in which it was earned and must be achieved by the above methods for attaining this status in any other category.

2.2.4 A member’s class in any/all categories applies also to any models of this type entered in the Open competition (ie. If an Expert in ship category enters a ship model in an Open Competition he is classed as an “Expert” and is judged / awarded accordingly etc.)

2.3.1 Competitions are only open to currently “paid-up” (financial) club members of IPMS (NSW).

2.3.2 A fee (currently \$2) set by The Committee (and member’s consensus), is levied upon each entry to be put towards costs of awards and/or club funds.

2.4.1 An “entry number” will be allocated to each model, upon payment of the entry fee, to be used on the entry forms/judging sheets in place of names, or club membership numbers (which will be kept recorded next to this entry number in a competition book by the secretary or an appointee) to try and avoid any obvious accusations of bias or favoritism.

2.5.1 There is no minimum number of entries required under this system to hold a competition (ie. one model allows a competition because it is being judged and rewarded on its own merit against a points standard, independently and regardless of any other entry(s).

2.5.2 Conversely there is no maximum number of entries allowable for holding a competition per category or class, either collectively or by any one competitor.

- 2.6.1 All current rules applying to the ‘Out of the Box’ format are to remain unchanged.
- 2.6.2 Any/all entries in this format (in any category or class) must use the specially designed “Out of the Box” type entry forms/judging sheets.
- 2.7.1 Any model not conforming to the “Out of the Box” requirements is to use the “standard” judging sheet or the “diorama” sheet if it is a vignette or diorama.
- 2.8.1 All current rules as to what constitutes a “model” vs a “vignette” vs a diorama etc are to remain unchanged.
- 2.9.1 No model that is fixed to a base (with or without scale groundwork) is to have points deducted for this. Judges are to only judge what can be seen (not what can’t).
- NB** (this also applies for example to open hatches or doors etc. If little or no interior detail has been added do not penalise by deducting marks. Judge the exterior on its merits. If however an interior has been added then suitably reward this work in “effort” and/or “accuracy to reference” categories.)
- 2.10.1 Two judges are to be selected/appointed to judge each competition category in each class, (though these may be combined if numbers dictate, ie. Judges and/or entries, if competitors and judges are amenable).
- NB** Neither judge may be entered in the competition he/she is judging.
- 2.10.2 Wherever possible the judges should be selected or appointed from a pool of “currently-active experts” (ie. members who have entered a competition in expert class in the last 12 months) or if lack of numbers dictate, acceptably credentialed members with prior judging experience may be accepted in their place.
- 2.10.3 Wherever possible one of the 2 judges should be an expert in the category being judged, the other, an expert from another category.
(N.B. This may have to be relaxed when numbers or the situation dictates)
- 2.10.4 Apprentice judges are encouraged to volunteer and to sit with the 2 expert judges appointed, from either Novice or Expert class.
- 2.10.5 A judges kit raffle is to be instituted on a monthly basis to encourage volunteers and to provide recognition for their time and efforts on the day.

3.0 DEFINITIONS

CLASS	Entry ranking of Novice or Expert determined as per rules
CATEGORY	Competition field of entry (ie. AFVs, Aircraft, Cars and Trucks, Ships, Science Fiction, Figures, Helicopters, Dioramas and Open.)

4.0 END OF YEAR COMPETITION

- 4.1.1 End of Year Competitions to be held across all categories in both Expert and Novice classes.

- 4.1.2 The End of Year Competitions are the IPMS (NSW) Club Championships and to be eligible to enter, all models must either have won a Gold Award during the current calendar year or be previously unentered in a monthly competition. However, such models which are entered for the first time at the End of Year competition may not be re-entered in a monthly competition over the following year/s.
- 4.1.3 (As in the monthly competitions) no minimum or maximum entries are required for a competition to be held.
- 4.1.4 All entries are to be judged in the same manner and using the same judging sheets as the monthly competitions throughout the year.

- 4.2.1 Awards to be presented in both Novice and Expert classes in all categories as follows:

1st Highest Scoring Entry per Category and Class = PERPETUAL TROPHY
2nd Highest Scoring Entry per Category and Class = SILVER CERTIFICATE
3rd Highest Scoring Entry per Category and Class = BRONZE CERTIFICATE

NB In the event of a tie/s for 1st, the perpetual trophy will be shared for the year by the winners and engraved with their names, with each receiving a permanent trophy when it is handed back the following year. In the event of a tie/s for 2nd and 3rd each entrant will receive a certificate of the appropriate grade.

- 4.3.1 “Model of the Year” to be awarded in both Novice and Expert classes and to be determined by a selected panel of judges who will “re-judge” all the trophy winners from all categories in each class to select one Novice and one Expert “Model of the Year”
- 4.3.2 “Model of the Year” award will be presented in the form of 1 perpetual trophy for each (Novice and Expert) on the day with a permanent trophy award in their place when they are handed back the following year.
- 4.4.1 “Modeler of the Year” is to be awarded based on the highest average score attained over a minimum of 3 entries across all categories. Where a member has more than 3 entries during the year, the 3 highest scores will be used to calculate their average for “Modeler of the Year” purposes.
- 4.4.2 "Modeler of the Year" will be in the form of 2 individual perpetual trophies (Novice and Expert) and a permanent set to be kept as per "Model of the Year".
- 4.5.1 A “Competitor of the Year” trophy will be awarded to the highest total aggregate points score attained across all categories and classes, over the calendar year.

5.0 INTERPRETATION/DISPUTES

- 5.1.1 Any questions, problems or areas of dispute regarding interpretation of these guidelines or the competition rules, by the judges or competitors, should be referred to the Committee with final arbitration if necessary carried out by the Club President.

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